

First 5 California  
Request for Application for  
The Comprehensive Approaches to Raising  
Educational Standards (CARES) Plus Program

**December 1, 2010**

**CARES Plus RFA Errata – Summary of Changes**

- 1. Page i of the revised RFA – Corrects the Important Funding Application Action Dates, number of applications required for submission.**

**Application submission deadline.** F5CA must **receive** both an electronic and print copy of the application package (original application with signature, ~~and two~~ **three additional hard copies, and one electronic copy**). The **one (1)** electronic copy must be e-mailed to [caresplus@ccfc.ca.gov](mailto:caresplus@ccfc.ca.gov). The **four (4)** hard copies must be received in the F5CA office by 5:00 p.m. on January 18, 2011. F5CA's business hours are 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, except holidays. See pg. 37 for Application Submission requirements.

- 2. Page viii of the revised RFA – Corrects and clarifies CARES Plus Program Participant Requirements Flow Diagram 3 – CARES Plus CORE requirements for Infant and Toddler Teachers.**

The LAC is part of the CARES Plus Core requirements. The LAC-T (Toddlers) will not be available until Year 2 and must be included in Year 2 professional development plans for teachers working with toddlers. The LAC-I (Infants) will not be available during the contract period; however, to fulfill the CORE requirements, teachers working with infants must complete the LAC-T.

- 3. Page 14 of the revised RFA, at the bottom of the page, first asterisk – Clarifies when infant and toddler teachers will take LAC-T to complete their CORE CARES Plus requirements.**

\*Although LAC-I is unavailable during this contract period. Teachers serving infants, in order to complete their CARES Plus CORE requirements, must take LAC-T during their second year along with Component A or B.

- 4. Page 15 of the revised RFA, Section E. Phase II – Participant Annual Requirements – Corrects and clarifies the reference to FCC Homes to include only licensed FCC Homes.**

County programs may increase the minimum requirements, including the Component requirements, as long as the program continues to demonstrate participation of early educators from Priority Zones and **licensed** FCC Homes (see page 25). Programs will provide updates through Quality Performance Reports (QPR – see page 48 for additional information on QPR requirements) and the CARES Plus Database information. County programs also must provide appropriate support services, or demonstrate the availability of these services to help participants meet the standards for successful and continued participation.

5. **Page 17 of the revised RFA Section F.3 Looking at CLASSrooms (LAC) – Clarifies the language specific to the Looking at CLASSrooms (LAC) CORE requirements, 20 – 30 hours minimum.**

**Please note that because LAC-T will not be available for toddler teachers until fall 2012, toddler teachers during program year 2011-12 must also be enrolled in Component A or B in addition to the CORE.**

**Since LAC will not be available for infant teachers during the currently approved program years for CARES Plus, participants working with infants must complete LAC-T and will also need to be enrolled in Component A or B.**

6. **Page 18 of the revised RFA, Section G. Phase II – Clarifies Additional Participant Requirements for Components A, B, or C for infant, toddler, and preschool teachers.**

Participants working with infants or toddlers, but not with preschoolers, must add a Component in addition to the Core in 2011-2012. Furthermore, continuing participants serving infants in year 2 must add a Component. Teachers serving toddlers in year 2 must complete LAC-T in addition to a Component.

Components available to participants are dependent on local program design and which Components the local program decides to offer. Participants must work with their CARES Plus Advisor to determine which locally offered Component best fits their Professional Development Plan (PDP). Participants adding a Component to the Core should receive a higher stipend.

7. **Page 21 of the revised RFA, Section H.3 Component D – Clarifies Participant Requirements, Family Child Care (FCC) owners/operators to include only licensed FCC owners/operators.**

Participation in MyTeachingPartner (MTP), a ten-month video-based, one-on-one coaching model professional development tool (Component D), consists of approximately 500 to 700 randomly assigned lead teachers/**licensed** FCC owners/operators annually.

8. **Page 22 of the revised RFA, Section H.4 Component D – Clarifies multiple references to Participant Numbers, to Family Child Care (FCC) owners/operators to include only licensed FCC owners/operators.**

Total program participation per year is limited to between 500 to 700 lead/master teachers and **licensed** Family Child Care (FCC) owners/operators. Participants will be chosen as follows:

- Year One – 500 to 700 preschool lead/master teachers and **licensed** FCC owners/operators.
- Year Two – 500 to 700 preschool and **toddler** lead/master teachers and **licensed** FCC owners/operators.

**9. Page 24 of the revised RFA, Section I.1 Target Population – Clarifies definition of the program’s target population to include licensed and not licensed-exempt Family Child Care Providers.**

The CARES Plus Program target population consists of early educators who work with children ages 0 to 5, including home-based providers, licensed ~~and license-exempt~~ Family Child Care Providers, Family Child Care Assistants, and center-based educators in public and private child care programs. Center-based programs that have teaching and administrative staff who directly supervise those working with children ages 0 to 5 and meet the qualifications outlined below are eligible to participate in the CARES Program, regardless of job title and program type. Additionally, if such programs exist locally, efforts must be made to increase the number of Migrant Education early educators in the CARES Plus Program.

**10. Page 25 of the revised RFA, Section I.2 Priority Zone – Clarifies the definition of Family Child Care (FCC) Provider to include only licensed providers.**

State matching funds should first be used with participants from these Priority Zones and eligible low performing school communities. These funds should be used to develop and support effective outreach strategies that target **licensed** Family Child Care (FCC) Providers, Migrant Education early educators, and early educators who offer high need care to infants/toddlers or children with disabilities and other special needs. These outreach strategies also must include culturally and linguistically diverse members of the early learning workforce in order to ensure that participants reflect the diversity of the children being served.

**11. Page 28 of the revised RFA, Section J. Phase II, second bullet – Clarifies Participant Eligibility Requirements to remove the phrase “license-exempt” as a descriptor of FCC home.**

- Worked with children 0 to 5 in a California-based licensed ~~or license-exempt~~ FCC home, state preschool, Head Start, or child care center for at least 9 months during the past year.

**12. Page 40 of the revised RFA – Clarifies the definition of Family Child Care (FCC) provider to include only licensed providers.**

**b. Target Population, Application Process, and Participant Stipends**

- ii. Total number of participants in the CORE per year: split into **licensed** Family Child Care (FCC) and center-based and total numbers for the two years

**c. Priority Zone and Principles on Equity**

- vii. Techniques and strategies that will be implemented to support representative participation of California’s culturally and linguistically diverse populations including **licensed** FCC providers.
- viii. Methods that will be used to track and measure progress in serving: Priority Zones and/or priority populations, **licensed** FCC providers, and a culturally and linguistically diverse workforce.

**13. Page 47 of the revised RFA, first paragraph – Corrects timeframe for reimbursement of expenditures from semi-annually to quarterly.**

First 5 California will reimburse the lead agency for CARES Plus expenditures ~~semi-annually~~ quarterly, upon receipt and approval of a reimbursement invoice for that will be provided by First 5 California.

**14. Page 49 of the revised RFA, Section O – Corrected Reporting Requirements.**

Expenditure Reports: Participating counties will submit expenditure reports to First 5 California ~~twice~~ four times a year for actual expenditures incurred by the Program. These reports must correspond to those found in the attached budget forms. First 5 California will reimburse lead agencies the state-match share of funds expended based on the reported expenditures. Expenditure reports must be submitted quarterly consistent with the following schedule.

**15. CARES Plus Form 9A has been replaced in its entirety.**

CARES Plus Form 9A, Phase II – Program Operations Budget FY 2011-12, has been replaced and modified to allow lead agencies to insert Administrative Cost percentages to support an automatic calculation of Administrative Costs to Direct Costs.

**16. CARES Plus Form 9B has been replaced in its entirety.**

CARES Plus Form 9B, Phase II – Program Operations Budget FY 2012-13, has been replaced and modified to allow lead agencies to insert Administrative Cost percentages to support an automatic calculation of Administrative Costs to Direct Costs.

**17. CARES Plus Form 10 has been replaced in its entirety.**

CARES Plus Form 10 Program Operations Budget Instructions for Budget Forms 9A and 9B, has been replaced to align with budget form line references.